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FOCUS

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Executive Reports

CO-PRESIDENTS - Bob Cannon & Alain Lajoie

In order to make dealing with the Co-Presidents a little easier, the following explains how they have divided up the responsibilities of their office.

Bob deals with:
- University Senate
- the Campus Centre
- the Internal, Financial, and Education Departments of the LSA

Alain deals with:
- the University Board of Governors
- the Visiting Lecturers' Committee
- Concordia Council on Student Life
- Lacolle Council
- the External, Information Services, and Programming Departments of the LSA

University Senate

Senate met for the first time this year on Friday, September 22nd. Anyone interested in sitting on the Senate should contact Bob Cannon or Monica Butler at the LSA.

Campus Centre

The Campus Centre fee for the current academic year is $13.50, despite a Campus Centre Management request for a $22.00 fee. When this figure was proposed by the Campus Centre, the LSA launched a counter-proposal suggesting a $12.00 fee. This campaign was backed by a petition drive which collected close to a thousand signatures. With the help of Peter Kruyt, LSA representative, a revised budget was drawn up, resulting in the $13.50 fee. This budget was then ratified by the Board of Directors of the Campus Centre.

Board of Governors

The first meeting of the Board was held on Thursday, September 14th. The Board deals with matters in a quick and decisive way; therefore, Alain would appreciate plenty of lead time on any motions that anyone from the LSA would like to have brought forward.

FOCUS

After a noticed absence over the summer, Focus has reappeared, and will continue to do so on a bi-monthly basis. Contributions from any member association will be accepted with great pleasure. All are subject to editing. Submissions should be addressed to KEVIN GILLIGAN, Information Services Vice-President.

Published by the Loyola Student's Association – Information Services

Concordia University Students' Association (CUSA)

After the CUSA "summit" on the weekend of September 16th and 17th and the resulting publicity in the campus media, the Co-Presidents feel it appropriate to air their opinions at this time.

"We firmly believe in a centralized CUSA. We intend to see CUSA adopt the LSA's structure of tripartite government. Only through the safeguards assured by that form of government and by a centralized body do we feel that Concordia students can be represented effectively in our University.

We also feel that the split between part-time and full-time students is a purely artificial one. All students have the same needs and are similarly affected by various administrative measures. We believe that the creation of 'types' of students is basically a way to make them easier to deal with by creating artificial frictions between student associations which are themselves artificially delineated."

EDUCATION VICE-PRESIDENT - Pierre Magnan

It is with regret that we must announce the resignation of Pierre Magnan as Education Vice-President. His reasons were of both an academic and a personal nature.

Book Exchange

The book exchange has been highly successful this year, and may show a small profit. Over 1,000 books were accepted, almost half of which were sold. Lineups were greatly reduced in comparison to those of last year, thanks to methods learned from past experience. It is hoped that the distribution of students' funds and the return of unsold books will be as efficient as the actual sale. The arrangements for payment and return of unsold books should be announced within the next week.

Better Teaching Bureau (BTB)

The BTB has been experiencing growing pains. Consultation with students, faculty, and other interested parties has helped to locate the source of some of the problems.

A formalized set of procedures will be published to show faculty and administration what we intend to do in pursuing the BTB's goals. These guidelines will also show students what happens to the opinions that they present to the BTB. The most important aim of these procedures is to set out a uniform treatment for dealing with academic structures.

The formalization of these procedures has begun and, before they are finalized, as many parts of the university community as possible will be consulted.

EXTERNAL DEPARTMENT - Bernard Déry, NUS Co-Ordinator
André Lauzon, ANEQ Co-Ordinator

There will be a conference of the National Union of Students (NUS) in London, Ontario, at McMaster University, from October 12th to 15th. The full agenda is not yet available, but it is known that the conference will be divided into four sessions: 1) workshops, 2) caucuses, 3) constituent group meetings, and 4) plenaries. Three delegates from the LSA -- two members of the External Department and one Co-President -- will be attending the conference.

Last weekend, RAEU (Rassemblement des associations étudiantes universitaires) held a meeting at the Université de Sherbrooke to discuss a report submitted by the Co-ordinating Committee on the general working of the organization. Also discussed was the publication of the RAEU Bulletin; its publishing schedule has been set for every three weeks. Some of the major issues touched upon at the RAEU meeting were student loans and bursaries, student unemployment, and differential fees.

A major topic of concern, and the cause of a possible major protest in October, is the programme of budget cuts presently being implemented by the Ministry of Education.

FINANCIAL VICE-PRESIDENT - Michael Doherty

Finance Committee

Apart from a few problems encountered trying to reach quorum for Committee meetings, the work is being completed at a steady pace. Most of our time at this point is spent reviewing, analyzing and approving (or not approving, as the case may be) the various budgets presented by the departmental and cultural associations of the LSA. To date, the Committee has allocated funds to: the Commerce Students' Society, the Computer Science Students' Association, the Concordia Community Nurses' Association, the Theatre Arts Students' Association, the Biology Students' Association, the Economics S.A., the History S.A., the Geology S.A., the Learning Co-Op, CIRL Radio, and the Loyola News. Budgets have been received from numerous other associations and will be duly considered within two weeks.

The job of the Financial Vice-President involves not only knowledge of the budgeting process and the distribution of funds, but a certain amount of diplomacy. We have thirty-five member departmental and cultural associations, all vying for a large chunk of our $16,000 annual budget. To tell the president of an association that his planned trip to Calgary is unacceptable does not help in establishing friendly relations between his association and the LSA. It is important that each side recognize the value of the other's position, and that the fiscal limitations of the LSA be perceived as being very real.

INFORMATION SERVICES - Kevin Gilligan, Vice-President

Information Services has expanded its facilities again this year with the purchase of an automatic addressing machine. The system works with cards and an alcohol transfer process similar to that of a stencil printer. The machine is available for utilization by all member associations, and its services will be rented to other organizations outside the LSA.

The Letraset bank has been updated to offer a wider variety of typefaces and sizes. It is unfortunate that, because of misuse of the Letraset by member associations in the past, Letraset may be used only in the Information Services office and only during office hours.

STUDENT DIRECTORY

The Student Directory will be published again this year, hopefully within the next month or so. Advertisements will be placed in the Loyola News and aired on CIRL to inform any students who don't wish to appear in the book to notify us, so that we can delete their names from the Directory.

Following publication, students will be notified through ads that if they suspect that someone is using the Directory for solicitation purposes, they should inform the LSA. The book is protected from such uses by copyright. Two cases were reported last year by students with telephone numbers not listed in the Montreal directory. In both instances the solicitation was stopped; however, refusal by the offender to stop would result in court action.

PUBLICATIONS DUMPED ON CAMPUS

In the near future the LSA will be taking steps to insure that unsolicited publications with advertising revenues as their base for existence not be allowed on campus. This applies to material such as "Like It Is", distributed to students on campus without obtaining prior permission from the students' associations which have control over campus distribution.

These publications are set up in direct competition with our own publications, e.g. the Loyola News, in the battle for the national advertising dollar. To allow them to remain on campus would mean higher subsidization of the News by the LSA as a result of lower ad revenues. The LSA is one of many student associations across the country which are taking action to protect their own publications and revenues.

INTERNAL VICE-PRESIDENT - William Muloin

The summer of '78 proved to be a very hectic one. The mandate of the Internal Vice-President, never clearly defined, was extended this year.

The first and most visible project undertaken this summer was the opposition of the proposed increase in the Campus Centre fee.

Departmental Council provides Internal's second area of interest. The Council is a body composed of the executives of each Departmental Association within the LSA. In past years the Council has limited its activities to organizing social functions for the members of various associations. The scope of the Departmental Council is being extended to include the educational needs of students at Loyola. In-depth studies of course content at the departmental level, as well as investigative reports on the Concordia libraries, are just two of the areas with which Departmental Council will concern itself this year.

PROGRAMMING DEPARTMENT - Nicki Campbell, Co-Ordinator

Programming is working on a handbook entitled "Let's Programme!" The book is intended for distribution to member associations. The information will be compiled with the aid of other Canadian and American institutions which have been invited to contribute their ideas on and experiences in programming.

The Operations Committee has had some difficulties in meeting, but once people have settled into their new schedules the Committee will resume its work.

The Programming Co-Ordinator has been meeting with representatives from the Dean of Students' Office and the Campus Centre Programming Office, and hopefully all three offices will collaborate on the presentation of events.

Plans for this year included the recent NORML-Canada workshop on the reform of marijuana laws; other scheduled events are Career Skills workshops, an Oktoberfest, the LSA Anniversary Party, and the hiring of a Carnival chairperson.